



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

14 AUGUST 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Milpitas – Russian Hackers Targeting Hotels Across Europe

(U) A hacking group linked to the Russian government has been using malicious documents to hack hotels across Europe in an apparent attempt to spy on their guests. The group, known by "APT28" or "Fancy Bear," infected the networks of at least seven hotels across Europe using a NSA hacking tool dumped online earlier this year, according to the Milpitas-based cybersecurity company FireEye. The attacks consisted of sending a document that looked like a guest form for hotel employees to fill out, which contained a small embedded program that was designed to install a malicious implant on the victim's computer.

SOURCE: 11 August 2017, [Motherboard](#)

(U) San Diego – Three Dead after SUV Fleeing Border Patrol Crashes

(U) An SUV fleeing from US Border Patrol agents smashed through a guardrail and hurtled into a ravine off a San Diego freeway, killing three of the vehicle's occupants and seriously injuring a fourth. The chase started after two agents on routine patrol ran the license plate of the GMC Envoy on 10 August and were told that the vehicle was associated with a possibly armed man suspected of murder and human smuggling. When agents signaled to the SUV to pull over on Interstate 15, the driver sped off and smashed through a guardrail while attempting to exit the freeway. The accident caused the SUV to roll down an embankment, ejecting the vehicle's occupants.

SOURCE: 11 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – Fleas Testing Positive for the Plague

(U) Navajo County - Officials in two Arizona counties are warning the public after fleas in the region tested positive for the plague, the infectious disease that killed millions during the Middle Ages. Navajo County Public Health officials confirmed on 11 August that fleas in the area have tested positive for the rare disease, following a similar notice from the Coconino County Public Health Services District. Officials also urged persons living, working, camping, or visiting in these areas to take precautions to reduce their risk of exposure, including avoiding sick or dead animals, keeping pets from roaming loose, and avoiding rodent burrows and fleas.

SOURCE: 12 August 2017, [ABC News](#)

(U) Virginia – One Dead, 19 Injured as Car Strikes Counter-Protesters

(U) Charlottesville – At least one person is dead as a vehicle hit a crowd of people gathered over the weekend to counter-protest against a white nationalists rally. Video recorded at the scene of the car crash shows a 2010 gray Dodge Challenger accelerating into crowds on a pedestrian mall, sending bodies flying — and then reversing at high speed, hitting yet more people. The driver of the Challenger was arrested and charged with one count of second-degree murder, three counts of malicious wounding, and one count of hit-and-run attended failure to stop with injury, police said. The FBI field office in Richmond and the US Attorney's Office in the Western District of Virginia said late Saturday

they have opened a civil rights investigation into the car crash.

SOURCE: 12 August 2017, [Washington Post](#)

(U) Virginia – Helicopter Crash Near Rally Kills Two Cops

(U) Charlottesville – Two Virginia State Police troopers died on 12 August when their police helicopter crashed in Charlottesville as they patrolled near the site of clashes between white nationalists and counter-protesters. State police identified the victims as pilot Lt. H. Jay Cullen, 48, and Trooper-Pilot Berke M.M. Bates, 40. The aircraft crashed in a wooded area near a residence just before 5 p.m. No one on the ground was injured, and officials are still investigating the cause of the crash.

SOURCE: 12 August 2017, [CNN](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Burkina Faso – At Least 17 Dead After Gunmen Attack Restaurant

(U) Ouagadougou – Suspected militants opened fire at a Turkish restaurant late yesterday in the capital of Burkina Faso. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the violence, which continued into the early hours today with another heavy exchange of gunfire overheard by witnesses. At least 17 people have been killed and eight others wounded, according to the Burkina Faso government.

Authorities suspect the attack was carried out by a terrorist group, and security forces arrived at the scene with armored vehicles. The US embassy in Ouagadougou has warned its citizens to avoid the area.

SOURCE: 13 August 2017, [CBS News](#)

(U) Russia – Intelligence Agency Says it Foiled Attack Plot

(U) Moscow – Russia's main intelligence agency said today it has foiled a plot led by two Soviet-born militants fighting for the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) in Syria. Four people have been arrested on suspicion of plotting a series of attacks, including two would-be suicide bombers plotting to blow themselves up on Moscow's transit system and in a shop, the FSB said in a statement. The intelligence agency said the attacks were directed by two senior ISIS militants from Syria who hail from the former Soviet Union and that a lab was discovered outside Moscow where improvised explosive devices were made. The suspects arrested outside Moscow were not identified, but the FSB said one of them is a Russian national and three others are from Central Asia.

SOURCE: 14 August 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Somalia – Insurgent Leader Defects to Government

(U) Mogadishu – A former insurgent leader, Mukhtar Robow Abu Mansur, has defected to the government, severing ties with the extremist group al-Shabaab, a military official said yesterday. Robow had been lying low in the jungles since 2013 when Al-Shabaab fell out with its former spokesman and deputy leader. An army official said in June 2017 there were negotiations between the government and Robow but there were no guarantees that he would defect. Robow and his bodyguards are reportedly in Hudur with local officials and will soon be flown to Mogadishu, according to a Somali military officer.

SOURCE: 13 August 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Immigrants Discovered in Truck

(U) Edinburg – Police discovered more than a dozen immigrants in the back of a tractor-trailer in South Texas after receiving a call for help allegedly from one of immigrants' relatives. Officers only knew the truck was at a rest stop about 20 miles north of the US-Mexico border. Officers went to the truck stop and knocked on parked trailers until they got a response. Inside the trailer of the truck they found 17

undocumented immigrants. The immigrants were from various countries, including Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Romania. None of the immigrants required medical attention. Police detained the driver and passenger of the 18-wheeler.

SOURCE: 13 August 2017, [NBC Dallas-Fort Worth](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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